

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WASHINGTON, DC

4 February 2020

HQ USAF/A1S 1040 Air Force Pentagon Washington, DC 20330

The Honorable John Cornyn United States Senator 5001 Spring Valley Rd, Suite 1125E Dallas, TX 75244

Dear Senator Cornyn,

This is in reply to your inquiry on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Harold Barker, regarding the inclusion of the deceased crew and passengers of a 27 July 1950 C-47D accident on the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) list of Korean War unaccounted-for service members.

Department of Defense Directive 5110.10, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) implements Sections 1501 – 1513 of Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.), providing for a single entity within the Department of Defense (DoD) for matters relating to accounting for missing persons. DPAA leads accounting efforts for personnel who were in a missing status or died in a combat theater of operations, but whose remains were not returned following cessation of hostilities or military operations. Each Military Service provides unaccounted-for personnel lists to DPAA for DoD identified conflicts.

The United States Air Force C-47D in question departed Haneda Air Base, Japan enroute to Itazuke Air Base, Japan on a courier mission. Based on available information including statements by the lone survivor and US Army Status Review Board – Reports of Death, search and recovery efforts failed to recover any other survivors or remains. On 11 April 1951, in accordance with Section 9, Public Law 490, Missing Persons Act, the respective Military Service Departments issued a Finding of Death for the crew and passengers, officially changing their status from missing to deceased (non-battle).

Because the accident did not occur in the Korean War zone nor was the aircraft on a Korean War mission enroute to or from the war zone, the incident is not designated a Korean War-related loss of personnel. Therefore, the personnel who died on board the aircraft are not included on the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's Korean War unaccounted-for list.

We continue to honor all those who served and gave their lives in service to our great Nation. Should you or Mr. Barker have any further questions, the Air Force Missing Persons Branch stands ready to assist. They may be reached at (800) 531-5501 or email <u>AFPC.DPFC.POW.MIA@us.af.mil</u>. We trust this information is helpful in responding to your constituent.

Sincerely,

H. L. LARRY, SES, DAF

Director, Air Force Services

DCS, Manpower, Personnel and Services